I have had a visit from the famous Count Cagliostro, who harangued us for three hours in bad French, taken from the Italian, entirely about himself and his sufferings; sometimes entertaining, generally tedious and like a charlatan; but better than I expected from the accounts I had received. He is a little brown man, with an ignoble face, good eyes, high forehead and bald. Nothing Jewish. He boasts of his wealth and disinterestedness, and talks of himself in the third person — "Le Comte de Cagliostro." He promises in six months to publish, gratis, a full account of his life, in English, French and Italian, in six octavo volumes — a dreadful threat.[1]

It is supposed the Duke of Rutland and Mr. Pitt are both favourable to the Catholics. The latter is said to be religiously inclined. A person in office told Wraxall an anecdote which he thought illustrative of the different ministers. When, in 1783, some concession from Russia arrived which was very unexpected, but about which they were

[1] The real name of this celebrated charlatan, whose pretended knowledge of magic and magnetism gained for him so great an influence at one period, was

Joseph Balsamo. He was of low extraction, and born at Palermo in 1743. He contrived to marry one of the most beautiful women in Italy, named Lorenza Feliciani, who to a good family added a considerable property. Through her aid he ended by making a large fortune.